



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit: 3652
Examiner: D. Underwood

In Re PATENT APPLICATION of

Applicant : Chohei OKUNO
Application. No. : 09/431,140
Filed : November 1, 1999
For : A ROBOT ARM MECHANISM
Attorney Docket No. : 36595-160597

**RESPONSE TO
OFFICE ACTION**

Customer No. 26694

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GROUP 3600

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 4, 2002, please amend the above-identified application.

In the Specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 16 has been amended as follows:

A conventional robot arm mechanism of this kind is disclosed in, for example, Japanese patent laying-open publication Tokkaihei 7-227777 and comprises a handling member for holding and releasing objects, and robot arms for operating and moving the hand. The robot arms are constituted by a plurality of parallel links having joint portions on which are provided synchronous gears for maintaining the links in their parallel attitudes. The synchronous gears are rotated to have the hand maintained in its predetermined direction by moving the hand forwardly and rearwardly while the parallel links are operated. Another conventional robot arm mechanism of this kind is disclosed in Japanese patent laying-open publication Tokkaihei 9-272084 and comprises robot arms constituted by a plurality of parallel links to form a parallelogram linkage contractable and extensible, and a synchronous motion mechanism including gears, belts and pulleys operatively mounted on the links. The synchronous motion mechanism is operated to

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